

Message Text

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ACTION SS-30

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C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 254

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: PFOR UN XF

SUBJ: MIDDLE EAST: DISENGAGEMENT AGREEMENT

1. DURING TALK WITH AMB SCHAUFLE JAN 24 ASYG URQUHART SAID THAT AGREEMENT ON DETAILS OF EGYPTIAN/ISRAELI DISENGAGEMENT HAD BEEN SIGNED AT KM 101.

2. SINCE PARTIES HAD BOTH INDICATED TO GEN SIILASVUO THAT THEY WISHED TO KEEP DETAILS OF AGREEMENT AND ACCOMPANYING MAPS TOP SECRET, URQUHART WAS CONCERNED ABOUT HOW SYG COULD KEEP SC INFORMED. HE CONSIDERED WHETHER TO PREPARE RATHER VAGUE AND GENERAL REPORT WHICH WOULD ALLUDE TO PARTIES' DESIRE TO KEEP AGREEMENT SECRET OR WHETHER SYG SHOULD WRITE PRESIDENT OF SC TO SAME EFFECT ASKING HIM TO INFORM SC MEMBERS. IN COURSE OF CONVERSATION SYG CALLED URQUHART AND PRESENT PLANS ARE TO ISSUE REPORT.

3. SCHAUFLE SUGGESTED THAT IT MIGHT BE NECESSARY TO ASK EGYPTIANS TO USE THEIR INFLUENCE WITH THEIR SUPPORTERS IN ORDER TO FORESTALL WHAT COULD BE INCREASINGLY FREQUENT REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION. ALSO NOTED THAT IN FEBRUARY FRANCE WOULD BE SC PRESIDENT AND WOULD ALSO BE INTERESTED IN HAVING SUCH INFORMATION. CONFIDENTIAL

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4. SCHAUFLE ASKED HOW MISSILE SITE PROBLEM HAD BEEN RESOLVED. URQUHART LOOKED AT SIILASVUO'S REPORT WHICH ONLY SAID IN EFFECT THAT PARTIES EXPRESSED THEIR VIEWS, THEN CONSULTED WITH THEIR GOVERNMENTS AND ACHIEVED AGREEMENT.

5. REGARDING INSPECTION OF LIGHTLY ARMED ZONES, AGREE-MENT REFERS ONLY TO UNEF PERSONNEL POLICING THE IMPLEMENTA-TION OF DISENGAGEMENT AGREEMENT IN THESE AREAS.

6. URQUHART IS OF THE OPINION THAT 7800-MAN FORCE ENVISAGED FOR UNEF AT THIS POINT IS MORE THAN ENOUGH FOR PRESENT BUFFER ZONE. HOWEVER SHOULD THERE BE FURTHER WITHDRAWAL, DUE TO NATURE OF TERRAIN AND LENGTH OF LINE, UNEF WOULD PROBABLY REQUIRE AIR RECONNAISSANCE. URQUHART ADDED THAT IT WOULD RROBABLY BE DESIREABLE NOW FOR SIILASVUO TO MOVE HIS HEADQUARTERS EAST TO ISMAILIA SINCE HE EXPECTED EGYPTIANS TO BECOME SOMEWHAT LESS COOPERATIVE ONCE DISENGAGEMENT ACCOMPLISHED.

7. REGARDING USE OF UNTSO, SCHAUFEELE ASKED HOW EXISTING OBSERVERS ON EGYPTIAN/ISRAELI LINE WOULD BE EMPLOYED. URQUHART HAD NO IDEAS ON THIS SUBJECT BUT SUGGESTED THAT PERHAPS UNTSO WAS BECOMING TOO LARGE. SCHAUFEELE SUGGESTED THAT US WOULD PROBABLY HAVE NO OBJECTION TO TRADITIONAL MERCHANDISING PHILOSOPHY OF "LAST IN - FIRST OUT" BUT DOUBTED THAT SOVIETS WOULD AGREE TO HAVING THEIR CONTINGENT REDUCED. URQUHART THOUGHT THERE WAS POSSIBILITY UNTSO COULD BE REDUCED BY NOT REPLACING DEPARTING OFFICERS.
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